

Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board Recommendation 95-5

to the Department of Energy

Regarding the Deferment of Environmental Restoration Activities to Reallocate Funds for Higher Risk Projects for Fiscal Years 1996 and 1997

Approved June 1, 1995

The Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) recommends that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) shift funding from Environmental Restoration activities to other activities intended to accelerate reduction of high risks at Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site. CAB agrees that these other activities, including plutonium stabilization, address some of the highest risks posed by the site to human health and the environment and respond to the stakeholder priorities identified at the 1995 Summit and recently adopted by CAB.

CAB recognizes the importance of addressing highest risk activities first, but is still very concerned and determined that deferred Environmental Restoration activities be addressed as soon as possible. Therefore, CAB's approval of the funding reallocation is subject to the conditions outlined by CAB, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and are as follows:

CDPHE Conditions*:

1. The precise Environmental Restoration programs to be deferred to be made with CDPHE staff representatives;
2. Proposed consolidation and stabilization activities to proceed as scheduled--and to work with CDPHE staff on matters of jurisdiction and authority issues; and
3. DOE to continue to develop more specific cost and savings estimates for the various mortgage reduction activities.

EPA Conditions*:

1. Enforceable milestones (i.e. stabilization of all on-site plutonium by year 2000) for incorporation into the Cleanup Agreement;
2. Commitment from DOE Headquarters not to reduce the Rocky Flats Environmental Management budget as a direct consequence of reduced surveillance and maintenance costs achieved through

the proposed activities;

3. Quantification of the cost reductions anticipated through the proposed activities; and
4. Regulator involvement with distribution of remaining Environmental Restoration funds.

CAB Conditions:

1. DOE Headquarters to commit in writing that the cost savings be returned to Rocky Flats;
2. Any cleanup deferment will not pose a threat to the environment or worker and public health and safety;
3. DOE will evaluate the deferment after each year to include the following:
 - a. Provide verification that the deferred funds were used for the stated purpose, and
 - b. Include enforceable milestones for Environmental Restoration activities in the Cleanup Agreement.
4. Include stakeholder involvement in decisions for deferment and reallocation of deferred funds.

** The CDPHE and EPA conditions were extracted and summarized, for simplicity, from each of the agencies' original letters of endorsement to DOE. Both letters are attached and will be attached with the formal recommendation to be sent to DOE.*

The Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board is a community advisory group that reviews and provides recommendations on cleanup plans for Rocky Flats, a former nuclear weapons plant outside of Denver, Colorado.

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